



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Peter K. Cheo et al

Serial No.: 09/648,918

Filed: August 25, 2000

Title: MODAL DISCRIMINATING AND LINEARLY  
POLARIZED FIBER LASERS

Examiner: Tuan M. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2828

Docket No.: PC-12

APR 28 2002  
7/Response  
10/8/02  
APR 28 2002  
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RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: BOX AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

on September 23, 2002  
Barbara Cecere  
Barbara Cecere

This paper is responsive to the Final Rejection dated August 5, 2002.

Before treating the rejection, there are two important points which must be dealt with.

First, the rejection is indicated as being final. However, claim 17 is now "rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cheo (US Patent 6,031,850)." In the previous Office Action, the -102(b) rejection on Cheo specifically skipped claim 17, and claim 17 was not otherwise rejected under -102(b). Therefore, rendering the rejection final was premature, it should be withdrawn according to MPEP 706.07(e) and a complete action on the merits provided.

Second, on page 3 of the rejection, at lines 5 and 6, it is stated "Applicant's intended to use misleading language in the claims to claim the invention." The undersigned attorney has every right to take umbrage at this serious accusation. The undersigned attorney will, if necessary, consult with the

Examiner's supervision, and management, to resolve this apparent insult. However, at the present time, the undersigned attorney chooses to treat this statement as an indication of the lack of command of the English language which the Examiner exhibits not only in the papers of this application, but on the telephone. In a telephone interview with the Examiner on September 10, 2002, it became clear that English is not a language in which the Examiner is competent. In that interview, the undersigned attorney asked the Examiner to reflect upon what he meant by that statement, and when it was clear to him what he meant, to communicate that meaning to the undersigned attorney. Subsequently, the Examiner called to request only written communication.

Third, in the September 10 interview, the Examiner indicated that the word "oblong" meant to him anything which was somewhere between a square and a circle. Such is not the case. Attached herewith and hereby made a part hereof are copies of three dictionaries indicating what the word "oblong" means. These dictionaries are: Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language, Second College Edition, Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary, Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary. It is here suggested that the Examiner must be more careful in treating the claimed subject matter accurately within the accepted meanings of words in the English language.

1. Claims 14-17 and 19-21 are rejected as anticipated by Cheo. In the fourth and fifth line of the explanatory paragraph of this rejection, it is stated that "each core...having an oblong (irregular) cross sectional, an isometric matrix of doped cores...." The rejection thus equates "oblong" to "irregular" and to "isometric matrix" as stated hereinbefore. This is impermissible and is contrary to the English language.

In the specification, page 8, an explanation of the modes in an elongated core explains how linear polarization is assured. At lines 20-21, it is stated "The

core 35 need not be rectangular" (which is the shape shown in Figs. 7 and 8) "so long as it is oblong, and may for instance be slightly rounded or highly elliptical." (Emphasis added). The language quoted from page 8 of the specification is consistent with the dictionary definition of "oblong". The assumption by the Examiner that "oblong" can mean "irregular" or "isometric matrix" is inconsistent with page 8 of the specification and with the English language as expressed in the dictionaries.

Claim 14 requires (line 4) "Each core having an oblong cross section" and (lines 6-8) "oriented...with their long axis perpendicular to said line...(line 10) "thereby to provide a linearly polarized output laser beam." In Cheo, the cores are not oblong, they are hexagonal. The cores do not have a long axis, since hexagons do not have a long axis. And, in Cheo, the lasers do not provide a linearly polarized output laser beam. Therefore, claim 14 is not only not anticipated by Cheo, it is not even remotely suggested in Cheo. Claims 15, 16 and 19-21 depend from claim 14 and are patentable for the same reasons. Therefore, reconsideration of claims 14-17 and 19-21 and allowance thereof over Cheo is hereby respectfully requested. The response to applicants' argument states at lines 6 and 7 "Cheo discussed about the oblong cross section note cols. 3-6, see Figs. 3-5". However, all of that is hexagonal and not oblong. In line 10, the response refers to linearly polarized output laser beam, see fig 1." There is no linearly polarized output laser beam in Fig. 1 of Cheo.

3. Allowance of claims 1-13 is noted with gratitude.

4. The allowability of claim 18 if in independent form is noted with gratitude; however, in view of the clear patentability of its parent claim 14, claim 18 is not being amended at this time.

5. Reference is made to "prior art not made of record and not relied upon"; however, it is not seen that any prior art was made of record in this Office Action.

6. As described hereinbefore, the final rejection is premature and should be withdrawn.

7. Should the foregoing not be persuasive, a telephone interview with the Examiner and with the Examiner's supervisor is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. P. Williams", is written over a horizontal line.

M. P. Williams

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Date: September 23, 2002

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**WEBSTER'S  
NEW WORLD  
DICTIONARY**  
OF THE AMERICAN LANGUAGE

DAVID B. GURALNIK, *Editor in Chief*

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slanting position or direction; neither perpendicular nor horizontal; not level or upright; inclined 2. not straight to the point; not straightforward; indirect 3. evasive, disingenuous, underhand, etc. 4. indirectly aimed at or attained [*oblique* results] 5. *Anat.* designating or of any of certain muscles obliquely placed and attached 6. *Bot.* having the sides unequal, as some leaves 7. *Geom.* with its axis not perpendicular to its base [an *oblique* cone] 8. *Gram.* designating or of any case except the nominative and the vocative (and, sometimes, the accusative) —*n.* an oblique angle, muscle, etc. —*vi.* **ob·li·qued'**, **ob·li·qu'ing** 1. to veer from the perpendicular; slant 2. *Mil.* to change the direction of march by approximately 45 degrees —*adv.* *Mil.* at an angle of 45 degrees —**ob·li·que'ly** *adv.* —

**ob·li·que'ness** *n.*

**oblique angle** any angle other than a right angle; acute or obtuse angle

**oblique sailing** a ship's movement in sailing on a course that forms an oblique angle with the meridian

**ob·li·qu·i·ty** (ə blīk'wə tē, ō-) *n.*, *pl.* -ties [ME. *obliquitee* < L. *obliquitas*] 1. the state or quality of being oblique 2. an oblique statement, action, etc. 3. a turning aside from moral conduct or sound thinking 4. *Astron.* the angle between the planes of the earth's equator and its orbit about the sun, approximately 23° 27' and decreasing at the rate of 0.47" a year 5. *Math.* a) deviation of a line or plane from the perpendicular or parallel b) the degree of this —**ob·li·qu'ui·tous** *adj.*

**ob·lit·er·ate** (ə blīt'ə rāt', ō-) *vt.* -at'ed, -at'ing [< L. *obliteratus*, pp. of *obliterare*, to blot out < *ob-* (see OB-) + *litera*, LETTER<sup>1</sup>] 1. to blot out or wear away, leaving no traces; erase; efface 2. to do away with as if by effacing; destroy —*SYN.* see ERASE —**ob·lit'er·a'tion** *n.* —**ob·lit'er·a'tive** *adj.* —**ob·lit'er·a'tor** *n.*

**ob·liv·i·on** (ə blīv'ē ən, ō-) *n.* [ME. < OFr. < L. *oblivio* < *oblivisci*, to forget < *ob-* (see OB-) + (prob.) *levis*, smooth < IE. base \**lei-*, slippery, whence LIME<sup>1</sup>] 1. a forgetting or having forgotten; forgetfulness 2. the condition or fact of being forgotten 3. official overlooking of offenses; pardon

**ob·liv·i·ous** (-əs) *adj.* [ME. *obliuious* < L. *obliviosus* < *oblivio*; see prec.] 1. forgetful or unmindful (usually with *of* or *to*) 2. causing forgetfulness —**ob·liv'i·ous·ly** *adv.* —**ob·liv'i·ous·ness** *n.*

**ob·long** (äb'lŏn) *adj.* [ME. *oblonge* < L. *oblongus*, rather long < *ob-* (see OB-) + *longus*, LONG<sup>1</sup>] longer than broad; elongated; specif., a) rectangular and longer in one direction than in the other, esp. longer horizontally b) elliptical —*n.* an oblong figure

**ob·lo·quy** (äb'lə kwē) *n.*, *pl.* -quies [ME. *obliqui* < LL. *obloquium* < L. *obloqui*, to speak against < *ob-* (see OB-) + *loqui*, to speak] 1. verbal abuse of a person or thing; censure or vituperation, esp. when widespread or general 2. ill repute, disgrace, or infamy resulting from this

**ob·nox·ious** (əb nāk'shəs, äb-) *adj.* [L. *obnoxiosus* < *obnoxius*, subject or exposed to danger < *ob-* (see OB-) + *noxa*, harm < base of *nocere*, to hurt; see NECRO-] 1. orig., a) exposed or liable to injury, evil, or harm b)

# Webster's Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary

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SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

ing external to the mind 3 a : the objective case the objective case 4 : a strategic position to be ose to be achieved by a military or naval operation ystem of lenses that forms an image of an object ON  
lement *n* : a noun, adjective, or pronoun used in complement to a verb and as qualifier of its direct

\əb-'jek-tiv-iz-əm, äb-\ *n* 1 : any of various g objective reality esp. as distinguished from sub- e or appearance 2 : an ethical theory that moral ely real 3 : the theory or practice of objective art — ob-jec-tiv-ist \-əst\ *n* — ob-jec-tiv-is-tic ik, (,)äb-\ *adj*  
,äb-'jek-tiv-ət-ē, əb-\ *n* : the quality or state of

'äb-jik-'tles-'n\ *n* 1 : a lesson having a material sis of instruction 2 : something that teaches by a le

-,zhā-'där\ *n*, pl ob-jets d'art \same\ [F, lit., art irticle of some artistic value 2 : CURIO  
-jər-'gāt\ *vt* [L *objurgatus*, pp. of *objurgare*, fr. *ob-* re to quarrel, lit., to take to law, fr. *jur-*, *jus* law + to lead) — more at OB-, JUST, AGENT] : to denounce GATE — ob-jur-ga-tion \,äb-jər-'gä-shən\ *n* — /əb-'jər-gə-'tör-ē, -tör-\ *adj*  
(,)äb-'lan(t)-sē-ə-'lāt\ *adj* : inversely lanceolate

-,bläst\ *n* [Russ *oblast'*] : a political subdivision of e U.S.S.R.

əb-, öb-, 'äb-\ *adj* [prob. fr. NL *oblatus*, fr. *ob-* + *latus* prolate)] : flattened or depressed at the poles — oblate-ness *n*

it\ *n* [ML *oblatus*, lit., one offered up, fr. L, pp. of ayman living in a monastery under a modified rule ws 2 *cap* : a member of one of several Roman inities of men or women

ä-shən, ö-\ *n* [ME *oblacioun*, fr. MF *oblacion*, fr. LL *io*, fr. L *oblatus*, pp. of *offerre* to offer] 1 a : a g of something inanimate b *cap* : the act of offer- istic elements to God 2 : something offered in

-li-gət, -lə-'gāt\ *adj* 1 : restricted to a particular n ~ parasite) 2 : ESSENTIAL, NECESSARY — öb-li-

-lə-'gāt\ *vt* [L *obligatus*, pp. of *obligare*] 1 a : to morally : CONSTRAIN b : OBLIGE 2a 2 : to commit eet an obligation

äb-lə-'gä-shən\ *n* 1 : an act of obligating oneself to on 2 a (1) : an obligating factor that binds one to on (2) : the power in such a factor b : a bond with ized and a penalty for nonfulfillment; broadly : a ding agreement or acknowledgment of a liability nt security 3 : something that one is bound to do DEBTEDNESS 5 : money committed to a particular LITY

ON, DUTY mean something that one is bound as a son to do or refrain from doing. OBLIGATION implies nstraint imposed by circumstances; DUTY suggests a ut greater impulsion on moral or ethical grounds

\ə-,blig-ə-'tör-ə-lē, ä-, -tör-; 'äb-li-gə-\ *adv* : in an ner

-,blig-ə-'tör-ē, ä-, -tör-; 'äb-li-gə-\ *adj* 1 : binding ience 2 : relating to or enforcing an obligation (a EQUIRED, MANDATORY 4 : OBLIGATE 1

vb [ME *obligen*, fr. OF *obliger*, fr. L *obligare*, lit., to towards + *ligare* to bind — more at LIGATURE] *vt* PEL 2 a : to bind by a favor or service b : to do a

FULNESS 2 : the quality or state of being forgotten 3 : offic ignoring of offenses : PARDON

obliv-i-ous \-ē-əs\ *adj* 1 : lacking remembrance, memory mindful attention 2 : lacking active conscious knowledge : UN AWARE *syn* see FORGETFUL — obliv-i-ous-ly *adv* — obliv-i-ous- ness *n*

ob-long \äb-'lön\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *oblongus*, fr. *ob-* towards + *longus* long] : deviating from a square or circular form through elonga- tion: a : rectangular with adjacent sides unequal b : rectangular with the normally horizontal dimension the greater — oblong

ob-lo-quy \äb-'lə-kwē\ *n* [LL *obloquium*, fr. *obloqui* to speak against, fr. *ob-* against + *loqui* to speak — more at OB-] 1 : strongly condemnatory utterance or language 2 : the condition of one that is spoken ill of : bad repute *syn* see ABUSE

ob-nox-i-ous \äb-'näk-shəs, əb-\ *adj* [L *obnoxius*, fr. *ob* in the way of, exposed to + *noxa* harm — more at EPI-, NOXIOUS] 1 : liable esp. to a hurtful influence — used with to 2 *archaic* : deserving of censure 3 : OFFENSIVE, REPUGNANT *syn* see REPUGNANT — ob-nox-i-ous-ly *adv* — ob-nox-i-ous-ness *n*

ob-nu-bi-late \äb-'n(y)ü-bə-'lāt\ *vt* [L *obnubilatus*, pp. of *obnubilare*, fr. *ob-* in the way + *nubilare* to be cloudy, fr. *nubilis* cloudy, fr. *nubes* cloud — more at OB-, NUANCE] : BECLOUD — ob-nu-bi-lation \,äb-n(y)ü-bə-'lä-shən\ *n*

oboe \'ō-(,)bö\ *n* [It, fr. F *hautbois* — more at HAUTOBOIS] 1 : a nontransposing woodwind instrument having a conical body, a double reed mouthpiece, and a nasal and penetrating tone quality 2 : an organ reed stop with a tone resembling an oboe's

obo-ist \'ō-,bö-əst, -bə-wəst\ *n* : an oboe player

obol \äb-əl, 'ō-bəl\ *n* [L *obolus*, fr. Gk *obolos*; akin to Gk *obelos* spit] : an ancient Greek coin or weight equal to 1/4 drachma

ob-ovate \(')äb-'ō-,vāt\ *adj* : ovate with the narrower end basal

ob-ovoid \-,völd\ *adj* : ovoid with the broad end toward the apex (an ~ fruit)

ob-scene \äb-'sēn, əb-\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *obscenus*, *obscaenus*] 1 : disgusting to the senses : REPULSIVE 2 : abhorrent to morality or virtue; specif : designed to incite to lust or depravity *syn* see COARSE — ob-scene-ly *adv*

ob-scen-i-ty \-sen-ət-ē\ *n* 1 : the quality or state of being obscene 2 : something that is obscene

ob-scur-ant \äb-'skyür-ənt, əb-\ or ob-scu-ran-tic \,äb-skyə-'rant-ik\ *adj* : tending to make obscure — ob-scurant *n* — ob-scu-ra-tion \äb-skyə-'rä-shən\ *n*

ob-scu-ran-tism \äb-'skyür-ən-'tiz-əm, əb-; 'äb-skyü-'ran- 1 : opposition to the spread of knowledge 2 a : deliberate vagu- ness or abstruseness b : an act or instance of obscurantism

ob-scu-ran-tist \-ən-təst, -'rant-əst\ *n* or *adj*

ob-scure \äb-'skyü(ə)r, əb-\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF *obscur*, fr. *obscurus*, fr. *ob-* in the way + *scurus* (akin to Gk *keuthenai* to conceal) — more at HIDE] 1 : lacking or inadequately supplied with light : DARK, DUSKY 2 a : withdrawn from the centers of human activity : REMOTE (~ country village) b : not readily understood or not clearly expressed : ABTRUSE c : lacking showiness or prominence : INCONSPICUOUS, HUMBLE (an ~ Roman poet) d : not distinct : FAINT 3 : constituting the unstressed vowel /ə/ or having unstressed /ə/ as its value — ob-scure-ly *adv* — ob-scure-ness *n*

*syn* OBSCURE, DARK, VAGUE, ENIGMATIC, CRYPTIC, AMBIGUOUS EQUIVOCAL mean not clearly understandable. OBSCURE implies a hiding or veiling of meaning through some defect of expression or withholding of full knowledge; DARK implies an imperfect or clouded revelation often with ominous or sinister suggestion; VAGUE implies a lack of clear formulation because imperfectly conceived or thought out; ENIGMATIC stresses a puzzling, mystifying quality; CRYPTIC implies a purposely concealed meaning; AMBIGUOUS and EQUIVOCAL both imply the use of the same word in different senses, AMBIGUOUS usu. suggesting inadvertence and EQUIVOCAL an attempt to confuse or evade



THIN PAPER

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SECOND EDITION



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SPRINGFIELD, MASS., U.S.A.

**b-liq'ui-tous** (ôb-lîk'wî-tûs), *adj.* Having obliquity.

**ob-liq'ui-tous** (ôb-lîk'wî-tûs), *n.*; *pl.* -TIES (-tîz). 1. State of being oblique; deviation from a right line, or from parallelism or perpendicularity; the amount of such deviation; divergence. 2. Deviation from moral rectitude or sound thinking. 3. *Astron.* Of the ecliptic, the angle between the planes of the earth's equator and orbit (ecliptic).

**ob-lit'er-ate** (ôb-lît'êr-ât), *v. t.* [*L. oblitteratus*, past part. of *oblitterare* to obliterate, fr. *ob-* + *littera*, *littera*, letter.] 1. To erase or blot out; efface; cancel. 2. To destroy, as if by effacing; render imperceptible. — *Syn.* See ERASE. — **ob-lit'er-a'tion** (-â'shûn), *n.* — **ob-lit'er-a'tor** (-â'tôr), *n.*

**ob-liv'i-on** (ôb-lîv'î-ûn), *n.* [*OF.*, fr. *L. oblivio*, fr. *oblivisci* to forget, prop., to smooth.] 1. Act of forgetting, or fact of having forgotten; forgetfulness. 2. State or fact of being forgotten. 3. Official ignoring of offenses; pardon.

**ob-liv'i-ous** (-ûs), *adj.* [*L. obliviosus*.] 1. Forgetful; not mindful; — often with *of*. 2. Promoting oblivion; causing forgetfulness. — *Syn.* See FORGETFUL. — **ob-liv'i-ous-ly**, *adv.* — **ob-liv'i-ous-ness**, *n.*

**ob'long** (ôb'lông; 74), *adj.* [*L. oblongus*, fr. *ob-* + *longus* long.] Elongated, esp. as deviating from a square or circular form; longer in one direction than in another, with sides parallel or nearly so; specif.: a *Geom.* Rectangular, with adjacent sides unequal. b *Bot.* Broadly elliptical. See LEAF, *Illustr.* (6). — *n.* An oblong figure.

**ob'lo-quy** (ôb'lô-kwî), *n.*; *pl.* -QUIES (-kwîz). [*LL. obloquium*, fr. *obloqui* to speak against, blame, fr. *ob-* + *loqui* to speak.] 1. Censorious speech; defamatory language; calumny. 2. State of being spoken ill of; bad repute. — *Syn.* See ABUSE; DISGRACE.

**ob-nox'ious** (ôb-nôk'shûs), *adj.* [*L. obnoxiosus*, fr. *obnoxius*, fr. *ob-* + *noxa* harm.] 1. Subject, liable, or open, as to harm, injury, or evil; also, *Now Rare*, censurable; punishable. 2. *Now Chiefly Legal.* Answerable; amenable; dependent; — usually with *to*. 3. Offensive; objectionable. — *Syn.* See REPUGNANT. — **ob-nox'ious-ly**, *adv.* — **ob-nox'ious-ness**, *n.*

**ob'oe** (ô'bô; ô'boi), *n.* [*It.*, fr. *F. hautbois*. See HAUTOBOY.] *Music.* a A slender, slightly conical wood-wind instrument with a double reed and a thin, penetrating, plaintive tone; a hautboy. b An organ reed stop giving an oboelike tone.

**ob'o-ist** (ô'bô-îst), *n.* A performer on the oboe.

**ob'ol** (ôb'ôl; ô'bôl), *n.* [See OBOLUS.] An ancient Greek coin (originally a weight),  $\frac{1}{6}$  drachma.

**ob'o-lus** (ôb'ô-lûs), *n.*; *pl.* OBOLI (-lî). [*L.*, fr. *Gr. obolos*.] An Attic weight of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  grains; also, an obol.

**ob-o'vate** (ôb-ô'vât), *adj.* Inversely ovate. See LEAF, *Illustr.* (9).

**ob-o'void** (-void), *adj.* *Bot.* Ovoid, with the broad end toward the apex, as some fruits, etc.

**ob-scene'** (ôb-sên'; 2), *adj.* [*F. obscène*, fr. *L. obscenus*, *obscænus*, *obscœnus*, ill-looking, filthy, obscene.] 1. Foul; disgusting. 2. Offensive to chastity or to modesty; lewd. — *Syn.* See COARSE. — **ob-scene'ly**, *adv.* — **ob-scene'ness**, *n.*

**ob-scen'i-ty** (ôb-sên'î-tî; -sê'nî-tî), *n.*; *pl.* -TIES (-tîz). Obscene quality, language, or acts.

**ob-scur'ant** (ôb-skûr'ânt), *n.* [*L. obscurans*, pres. part.] One who obscures; one who strives to hinder the progress or spread of knowledge. — **ob-scur'ant**, *adj.* — **ob-scur'ant-ism** (ôb-skûr'ân-tîz'm; ôb'skû-rân'tîz'm), *n.* — **ob-scur'ant-ist** (-tîst), *n.* & *adj.*

**ob'scu-ra'tion** (ôb'skû-ra'shûn), *n.* Act of obscuring, or state of being obscured.

**ob-scure'** (ôb-skûr'), *adj.* [*F. obscur*, fr. *L. obscurus*, orig., covered.] 1. Destitute of light; hence, dark; dusky; gloomy. 2. Not readily seen; as: a Retired or remote; hidden. b Not easily understood or clearly expressed; abstruse; vague. c Not noticeable; inconspicuous; mean. d Not distinct; faint; undefined. — *Syn.* (1) See DARK. (2) Obscure, dark, vague, enigmatic, cryptic, ambiguous, equivocal mean not clearly understood. Obscure implies a hiding or veiling of the meaning through some fault in the thing or in the person who would understand; dark, an imperfect or clouded revelation; vague, a lack of clear formulation, often because not fully thought out; enigmatic, a puzzling, mystifying quality; cryptic, a dark and enigmatic statement; ambiguous and equivocal, use of the same word in different senses, *ambiguous*, however, implying inadvertence, and *equivocal* an attempt to confuse.

— *v. t.* 1. To make obscure, or dark, dim, vague, indistinct. 2. *Phonet.* To reduce (a vowel) to a sound of neutral or indefinite quality; thus, the *o* of the noun "object" is, in the verb, *obscured*.

— *n.* Obscurity; an obscure part, as in a picture.

— **ob-scure'ly**, *adv.* — **ob-scure'ness**, *n.*

**ob-scu'ri-ty** (ôb-skû'rî-tî), *n.*; *pl.* -TIES (-tîz). 1. Quality or state of being obscure. 2. Someone or something obscure.

**b'se-crate** (ôb'sê-krât), *v. t.* [*L. obsecratus*, past part. of *obsecrare*, prop., to ask on religious grounds, fr. *ob-* + *sacrare* to declare as sacred, fr. *sacer* sacred.] To beseech; supplicate. — **ob'se-cra'tion** (-krâ'shûn), *n.*

**b-se'qui-ous** (ôb-sê'kwî-ûs), *adj.* [*F. obsequieux*, fr. *L. obsequiosus*, fr. *obsequium* compliance, fr. *obsequi* to comply with, fr. *ob-* + *sequi* to follow.] 1. *Now Rare.* Compliant; devoted. 2. Servile.



Oboe.

primitive rules, esp. of poverty

**ob'ser-va'tion** (ôb'zêr-vâ'shûr as of rules. 2. Act or faculty which is observed, or noted; scientific studies, by recognizing chiefly *pl.*, the information of taining of the altitude of a he sea. 3. An inference drawn served; hence, a comment; jud served; as, in danger of observ ing scenery, or the like, or in car, platform, post. — **ob'ser-**

**ob-serv'a-to'ry** (ôb-zûr'vâ-tô'r building equipped for observat ology, magnetism, or astronoi purpose is making such observa ing a wide view.

**ob-serve'** (ôb-zûrv'), *v. t.* [*O tum*, fr. *ob-* + *servare* to save, action or practice to; comply w spect or take note of as an au ennize in customary form; as, tention to; watch. 5. To perc an observation; say casually. of; to ascertain by scientific ob 1. a To take notice. b To ma ment; — generally with *on* or *u*

**ob-serv'er** (ôb-zûr'vêr), *n.* One tive sent to observe and listen gathering. b *Aeronautics.* Or plane in order to make observai

**ob-sess'** (ôb-sêss'), *v. t.* [*L. obs.* fr. *ob-* + *sedere* to sit.] To be harass; to influence, as by a fix

**ob-ses'sive** (-sêss'iv), *adj.* — **ob-ses'sion** (ôb-sêsh'ûn), *n.* 1. son, or impelling him to action, f or impelled. Cf. POSSESSION. occupation with an idea or emo

**ob-sid'i-an** (ôb-sîd'î-ân), *n.* [ Volcanic glass; specif., except basalt *obsidian*], such glass hav

**ob-so-les'cent** (ôb'sô-lêss'ênt; -nt part. of *obsolescere* to wear out, becoming obsolete. — **ob-so-les cent-ly**, *adv.*

**ob-so-lete** (ôb'sô-lêt), *adj.* [*L. See OBSOLESCENT.*] 1. No lon word, law, or tax. Abbr. *obs.* rent; out of date; as, an *obsole* absent; — of an organ or the like a related species or in an earli

**lete-ly**, *adv.* — **ob-so-lete-ness**, *n.*

**ob'sta-cle** (ôb'stâ-k'l; -stî-k'l), *n.* to withstand, fr. *ob-* + *stare* to way, or opposes; a hindrance; ar

**ob-stet'ric** (ôb-stêt'rîk), *ob-stet'r* fr. *obstetrix*, -icis, a midwife, f STACLE.] Of or pert. to obstetri

**ob'ste-tri'cian** (ôb'stê-trîsh'ân), *n.* obstetrics.

**ob-stet'rics** (ôb-stêt'rîks), *n.*; *se* women in parturition; midwifery labor.

**ob'sti-na-cy** (ôb'stî-nâ-sî), *n.*; *pl.* being obstinate; as: a Firm and i opinion, purpose, or system; stub efforts to remedy, relieve, or subd instance of being obstinate; an ol

**ob'sti-nate** (-nî), *adj.* [*L. obsti* about a thing with firmness, persis an opinion, purpose, or course; n 2. Not yielding to treatment, fo moved. — **ob'sti-nate-ly**, *adv.* — *Syn.* Obstinate, dogged, stubborn, and unyielding in purpose or cours perverse, adherence; dogged, down len persistence; stubborn, sturdin purpose, course, opinion; pertinac or irksome; mulish, an obstinacy — *Ant.* Pliant.

**ob-strep'er-ous** (ôb-strêp'êr-ûs), *a* to make a noise at, fr. *ob-* + *strep* lably noisy; unruly. — *Syn.* See *adv.* — **ob-strep'er-ous-ness**, *n.*

**ob-struct'** (ôb-strûkt'), *v. t.* [*L. o* build up before or against, obstru To block up; stop up or close, as a with obstacles. 2 To be, or com